

Sri ABDUL KHUDDUS ANWAR.—Has the full quantity been supplied under the railway contract ?

Sri S. M. KRISHNA.—I want notice.

Cement Permits for Construction of Agricultural Wells

366. Sri P. A. PAWASHE (Uchagaon).—

Will the Minister for Industries and Parliamentary Affairs be pleased to state :—

(a) the number of cement permits issued for construction of houses and to the agriculturists for agricultural purposes in Belgaum Taluk during the years 1973-74 and 1974-75 ;

(b) whether any applications by agriculturists for cement permits to construct agricultural wells or for any other agricultural use are pending ;

(c) if so, the reasons for the same ?

Sri S. M. KRISHNA (Minister for Industries and Parliamentary Affairs).—

(a)	1973-74		1974-75
<i>House</i>	<i>Agriculture</i>	<i>House</i>	<i>Agriculture</i>
1382	362	1439	100

(b) Yes.

(c) Due to inadequate allotment of cement to the district.

Sri P. A. PAWASHE.—May I know how many applications of agriculturists are pending and since how long they are pending ?

† **Sri S. M. KRISHNA.**—I don't have the correct figure as to number of the applications pending.

Sri P. A. PAWASHE.—While taking into consideration the number of permits issued to agriculturists which is very less, may I know why the application of agriculturists are still kept pending ?

Sri S. M. KRISHNA.—I agree with the hon. Member that the figures of permits issued to agriculturists speak out that the agricultural sector has not been given due attention that has to be paid to it, I suppose it is largely because tremendous pressure has been brought upon the Collectors of the district to allot cement for house construction and other constructions. But in view of the present situation of having better food production in the country I will see that a circular is issued to-day stating that top priority is to be given to the applicants who need cement for agricultural purposes.